

Art Unit: 1724

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) An air humidifier having an electric fan unit arranged in a housing for delivering a through-flow of air between feed-air and discharge-air openings in the housing, at least one filter device for the through-flow of air and a device for releasing liquid to the through-flow of air, characterized by a first housing component, which accommodates the fan unit with filter strips and feed-air and discharge-air openings, and by a second housing component as a vessel for storing liquid, the two housing components forming autonomous structural units which can be fixed to and detached from one another, and it being possible for the first housing component to be utilized as a separate unit independently of the second housing component,

wherein the first housing component, on the base side, has passage openings, which are controlled by pivotable flaps, for a branched-off part of the through-flow of air which can be guided into and out of the second housing component.

2. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the two housing components are of substantially box-shaped design and are placed or fitted freely onto or above one another or can be fixedly but releasably connected to one

Art Unit: 1724

another by clamping members including screw-connection or plug-connection elements, and clips.

3. (withdrawn) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the second housing component (3), having the cross-sectional shape and cross-sectional size of the first housing component (2), is designed in tub or pot form, engaging under the first housing component (2).

4. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first housing component, in order to increase the surface area of the through-flow of air and to reduce the noise level, has a double fan unit.

5. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first housing component has at least one first filter stage for the feed air and at least one ~~further~~ second filter stage for the discharge air of the through-flow of air.

6. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 5, wherein the first and/or second filter stage, as seen in the direction of the through-flow of air, are configured as particle filters.

7. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 5, wherein the first filter stage is designed as a feed-air filter door which is held on the first housing component by means of hinge joints or by means of a plug connection and

Art Unit: 1724

which covers the housing opening for the feed air of the through-flow of air.

8. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 5, wherein the second filter stage is designed as a discharge-air filter door and is held on the first housing component by means of hinge joints or by means of a plug connection.

9. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 5, wherein an additional bacteria filter or a chemical sterilization device is in each case assigned to the first and/or second filter stage in the first housing component.

10. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one ionization and ozonization assembly, which is assigned to the through-flow of air and operates in accordance with the dielectric barrier discharge principle, is arranged in the first housing component, and a sorption catalyst unit is provided as discharge-air filter for eliminating excess ozone present in the through-flow of air.

11. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 10, wherein the ionization and ozonization assembly is formed as a flat module or by a Siemens ionization tube.

12. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 10, wherein the sorption catalyst unit is formed by a carbon filter including an activated carbon filter.

Art Unit: 1724

13. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first housing component has at least one device, assigned to the through-flow of air, for releasing perfumes or aromas, and in that, if a plurality of these release devices are provided, the perfumes or aromas can be activated separately on an individual basis or in combination with one another in order to form a combination of perfumes.

14. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 13, wherein the device for releasing perfumes or aromas is formed by one or more vessels, in tube or cup form, with a liquid or solid storage medium including silica gel or aluminum oxide, accommodated therein, and in that the perfumes or aromas are stored in the storage medium and can be discharged from the storage medium by a gaseous medium including the through-flow of air.

15. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 13, wherein the devices for releasing perfumes or aromas which are assigned to the through-flow of air are connected upstream and/or downstream of the sorption catalyst unit.

16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second housing component has a filling or refilling opening for liquid~~-(21)-~~, which can be controlled by a flap formed by a pivotable or slideable closure member.

Art Unit: 1724

18. (withdrawn) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the second housing component (3), in order to form a filling or refilling opening for liquid (21), projects transversely outward beyond a side wall of the first housing component (2) by means of a partial length (3') and/or a partial width.

19. (withdrawn) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 18, characterized in that the partial length (3') and/or partial width of the second housing component (3) which serves as the filling or refilling opening can be closed off by a pivotable, slideable or plug-connection component.

20. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein the transfer of liquid to the branched-off part of the through-flow of air in the second housing component can be increased and/or adjusted by means of at least one wettable evaporation body, a partial length of which is immersed in the liquid.

21. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 20, wherein the evaporation bodies are formed as floating bodies, spherical in form and made from a plastic, ~~e.g.~~ ~~polyethylene~~, or as woven fabrics, folded components including paper strips, or disk bodies rotatably supported by floating bodies, a section of which is permanently immersed in the liquid, while the remaining section projects into the branched-off part of the through-flow of air.

Art Unit: 1724

22. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second housing component is configured on the inner side with a removable film or foil made from a flexible material.

23. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 22, wherein the film or foil is formed from a copper-containing material or a ~~similar material~~ having characteristics of a copper-containing material.

24. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 22, wherein the film or foil, on the inner side, bears, in a fixed position or loosely, an inlay body in strip or plate form and made from copper or a copper alloy.

25. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, having a first housing component with fan, filter, perfuming, ionization and ozonization devices accommodated therein, characterized by a first, substantially box-shaped housing component and a second, pot-shaped housing component as a liquid storage device with an open side, via which the first housing component can be inserted into the second housing component, it being possible for passage openings for a branched-off partial quantity of the through-flow of air, which are closed off on the base side in the first housing component- to be automatically moved into an open position in the inserted state, and for the passage openings to be automatically closed when the

Art Unit: 1724

first housing component is pulled out of the second housing component.

26. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 25, wherein the passage openings can be controlled by means of pivotable or slideable closure elements which can be moved into the open position by means of run-on bodies arranged in a fixed position in the second housing component including pins and strip parts, as a result of the weight or plug-connection force that can be applied by the first housing component during the plug-connection movement of the first housing part.

27. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 25, wherein the feed-air and discharge-air openings for the through-flow of air are formed in the top side of the first housing component, adjacent to and at a distance from one another.

28. (previously presented) The air humidifier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second housing component bears against a tube or hose line, and in that the second housing component can be periodically filled or refilled with liquid, either manually or with continuous automatic control, via the tube or hose line.

29. (currently amended) The air humidifier as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 5, wherein the second filter stage for the discharge air is formed in a side wall and/or in the top side of the housing component.

30. (new) An air humidifier comprising:

Art Unit: 1724

a housing including  
a first housing component having intake and exhaust openings,  
and

a second housing component as a vessel for storing a liquid,  
the first and second housing components forming autonomous  
structural units that can be fixed to and detached from one  
another;

an electric fan unit in the housing and delivering a  
through-flow of air between the intake and discharge openings in  
the housing;

at least one filter device that filters the through-flow of  
air; and

a device that releases liquid to the through-flow of air,  
wherein the first housing component is usable as a separate  
unit independently of the second housing component, and

wherein the first housing component has passage openings on  
a base side, which are controlled by pivotable flaps, for a  
branched-off part of the through-flow of air which can be guided  
into and out of the second housing component.